United Nations A/ES-10/133–S/2001/1239

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 December 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 21 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In spite of Palestinian attempts at the highest level to achieve a ceasefire and prevent all military attacks, Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, committing yet additional war crimes and State terrorism. Since my last letter to you, dated 10 December 2001 (A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166), Israeli occupying forces have killed 29 more Palestinians. These killings include cases of extrajudiciary executions, wilful killings in cold blood and deaths as a result of Israeli bombardments by fighter jets and helicopter gunships. Israeli occupying forces have also increased their siege on many Palestinian cities and villages, including major cities such as the city of Ramallah.

In this regard, it is highly regrettable that the United Nations Security Council failed to fulfil its primary responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security due to the exercise of veto by one of the permanent members of the Council, during the vote on a draft resolution in the early hours of last Saturday, 15 December 2001. The General Assembly, however, under the formula "United for Peace", resumed the tenth emergency special session on 20 December 2001 and adopted by a large majority the same text of the draft resolution which was presented to the Security Council. The tenth emergency special session also adopted another draft resolution on the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Declaration adopted by the Conference of High Contracting Parties on 5 December 2001 in Geneva, calling on all Members and observers of the United Nations as well as the Organization and its agencies to observe the above-mentioned Declaration.

The tenth emergency special session, in adopting those two important draft resolutions, made the right decision and sent the appropriate message to the occupying Power, to the people under occupation and to the peoples and Governments of the region. Moreover, the resolutions adopted required a follow-up from Members and the United Nations system.

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In follow-up of my previous 84 letters to you regarding this grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 10 December 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149 and A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166), I regret to inform you that the 29 Palestinians killed by Israeli occupying forces raise the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 832. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 21 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Monday, 10 December, to Thursday, 20 December 2001)

Monday, 10 December 2001
(in addition to names of martyrs included in letter dated 10 December 2001)

Shady Ahmed Arafa (12 years old)

Tuesday, 11 December 2001

1. Mohammed Khalil Abu Maraheel
2. Mohammed Abdel Qader Jam'an

Wednesday, 12 December 2001

1. Yasser Hassan Abu Namoos
2. Asa'ad Abdel Karim Abu Sittah
3. Saeed Ahmed Abu Sittah
4. Fadel Abu Ebeid
5. Hayat Asa'ad Al-Haytham

Thursday, 13 December 2001

1. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Damisi
2. Ahmed Khamees Al-Masri (15 years old)
3. Ramy Saleh Zo'rob (13 years old)

Friday, 14 December 2001

1. Rizq Sha'baa Abu Khadeejeh
2. Jawad Al-Dams Sha'baa
3. Khaled Yaqoub
4. Mohammed Abdel Aziz Ashour
5. Asa'ad Abu Attiyah
6. Abdel Baset Mohammed Abu Turki
7. Imad El-Dean Al-Omrani

Saturday, 15 December 2001

1. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Basyouni
2. Yussef Shawki Al-Najjar (11 years old)
3. Mohammed Abu Zaher (16 years old)
4. Ammar Mohammed Al-Ghaleez (16 years old)
5. Sa'eed Abd Rabbo Dawood

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* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 832.

Sunday, 16 December 2001

Abdallah Ibrahim Al-Tarawa

Monday, 17 December 2001

1. Munjed Selman
2. Mohammed Jum'an (13 years old)
3. Yaqoub Edkayek

Thursday, 20 December 2001

1. Deeb Asa'ad Farawy
2. Mohammed Saeed Hawash

United Nations A/ES-10/134–S/2001/1261

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
26 December 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 26 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On Christmas Eve, Israel, the occupying Power, used military measures to obstruct the attendance by the President of the Palestinian Authority of religious observances in Bethlehem. This step, which was made public, represents gross and severe violations of the agreements reached between the Palestinian and Israeli sides along with the principle of freedom of movement and freedom of access to holy places. It is a direct attack on the Presidency of the Authority and an insult to Palestinian national dignity that meant to provoke a reaction, thus ensuring the continuation of the cycle of violence.

The Israeli government has crossed a red line with regard to dealing with the Palestinian Authority and its elected President, in light of existing agreements. The Israeli government must understand that reneging on the requirements of the recognition of the Palestinian Authority and its rights can only destroy the historical mutual recognition reached between the Palestinian and Israeli sides in 1993, for which the Israeli government will bear full legal and political responsibility. Israel can not have it both ways, and the Palestinian Authority might find itself obliged to deal with it solely as an occupying Power.

On another important issue, Israel, the occupying Power, up until now has not responded positively to the measures taken by the Palestinian Authority to ensure a ceasefire and the ensuing declaration by some Palestinian groups of the cessation of suicide bombings in Israel. In fact, the occupying Power continues with its military campaign and it is also trying to achieve the illegitimate goal of branding violent acts in the Occupied Palestinian Territory as terrorism. Resistance to foreign occupation has always been and will always remain legitimate. In the Palestinian case, Israeli settlers illegally brought by the occupying Power to the Occupied Territory remain the responsibility of the occupying Power and cannot be regarded as protected persons under international law. Those settlers are illegal and will remain so until they leave with the end of occupation.

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The Palestinian Authority, however, out of its commitment to the negotiated settlement within the peace process, remains committed to the ceasefire and remains opposed to violence, even in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. However, Israeli attempts to legitimize the illegal presence of settlers and to undermine the clear legal case of the Occupied Palestinian Territory are absolutely rejected. Furthermore, Israel's persistence in its military campaign against the Palestinian people, if continued, can only lead to a Palestinian reaction and legitimate Palestinian resistance. The world has been aware of the utmost seriousness of the two issues mentioned above and while we hold Israel responsible, we hope that the international community can do its part to save the situation in the interest of peace in the Middle East.

In follow-up of my previous 85 letters to you regarding this grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 21 December 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166 and A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/56/718–S/2001/1206

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
13 December 2001
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 42
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 18 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that since yesterday, Israeli military aircraft, included 35 warplanes and 5 helicopters, have been engaging in intensive violations of Lebanese airspace, breaking the sound barrier over Lebanese cities and villages.

At present the Israeli military aircraft are still continuing their provocative acts, which reached a dangerous level yesterday when, starting at 17.20 hours, 14 military aircraft at once overflew Lebanese cities and regions at low altitudes, causing anxiety and terror among Lebanese civilians, especially children, and terrifying large numbers of tourists who had come to spend the holiday period in Lebanon, owing to the repeated breaking of the sound barrier by those aircraft during the night-time hours.

The Israeli violations mentioned above are unjustified acts of provocation, especially since they come at a time when complete tranquillity reigns over South Lebanon. They once again belie Israel's assertions that it is calling for pacification and confirm its efforts to escalate tension through its provocation and its aggression against Lebanon, which are in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanon's sovereignty and pose a threat to security and stability in the region.

Lebanon, in drawing your attention to the seriousness of the Israeli violations, requests you to exert the necessary efforts to stop Israeli aggression and provocation.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmouri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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